

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

**SECRET**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT

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SUBJECT Soviet Army Medical Service/Battle  
Casualties Replacement Policies

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- A. At the age of 16, the youth reports to his Military Commissariat for a detailed pre-induction physical examination. The total examination takes about 35 minutes. It includes a vision test (on a standard wall chart as well as the use of booklets for color blindness); a hearing test (conducted by whispering from across the room); a throat examination; a dental examination; a heart examination (listening to the heart beat); an X-ray of the chest; and a reflex test (similar to the standard US reflex test).

Depending upon the outcome, the youth is judged acceptable or unacceptable. If unacceptable, he is issued a document attesting to that fact. One may be rejected for TB, a high degree of poor vision, a missing limb, extreme cases of flat feet, etc. One who is rejected from the military service by this pre-induction physical examination is called a "White Ticket Holder" (BYELO BILETWAK). If the candidate passes the examination, he is issued a document called "The Booklet of the Pre-Inductee" which contains biographical data and which will be used in connection with his pre-inductee training. He is also placed upon the rolls of the local draft-board.

Doctors from local clinics are used for these examinations, and generally one doctor is used for each special examination or test. Such pre-induction physicals are made approximately once a year thereafter for everyone at their local clinic to affirm or reclassify the findings of the initial examination. Examinees are taken in groups for these exams. A month or two before induction (twice a year), there is a final examination similar to the above for the recruits-to-be. The draft age is now 18, although the draftees are usually at least 18½ years old when called up.

At the draft center, the subject is merely processed and sent on to a military unit where once again he is subjected to a military examination. This exam is given by army doctors at the unit to which he reports. At periods of one year thereafter, a physical examination similar to those

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- (d) Three to five commissioned doctors
- (e) A chief of pharmacy (feldsher)
- (f) One nurse for every two to three cars (feldsher)
- (g) One orderly for each car (sanitarka)
- (h) Two to three cooks
- (i) Supply sergeant
- (j) Laundry facilities

The Soviet Army standard hospital train operates between army group hospitals and hospitals in the zone of interior. The facilities of the Soviet Army standard hospital train are complete and represent a virtual hospital on wheels. The medical personnel component is like that of the San Letuchka but is permanently assigned.

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- A. The normal method for obtaining replacements for casualties is "through channels". Company commanders prepare daily reports and submit them to battalion. These forms are called A Daily Accounting (Sutochnaya Vedomost). This form accounts for the actual personnel strength of the unit, as well as for weapons and animals. Battalion collects these reports and sends them on to the regiment. Every 10 days on the basis of these reports, the regiment draws up a consolidated report called Form Number 6/OP, Report on Military and Strength Condition (Doneseniye O Boyevom I Chaistenom Sostave), which gives the picture on replacements needed. This is sent on to higher headquarters, which in turn sends down the replacements. In peacetime this procedure is not followed or needed because of the Report on Mobilization which is already written.

Companies, battalions, and regiments on the line are never withdrawn from the battle individually regardless of the amount of casualties sustained -- with the one following exception. If the regimental flag which identifies the unit should fall into enemy hands, the regiment is withdrawn and disbanded. There are two reasons for this action. First, it is considered a great dishonor for a regiment to lose its standard to the enemy, and second, the removal is also done for security reasons. The members of any such disbanded regiment would be sent to other fighting units.

The Soviet rifle division is not considered as unfit for continuing in action until 67% casualties are sustained. At this point, it is sent to the rear and restored to normal T/O and returned to battle.

Replacements generally are fresh men, ie, new recruits with their basic training just completed. All recruits would be well trained before being sent to units as replacements.

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